

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. Appln No. 10/559,593  
(Attorney Docket No. GP-307707-AO-LCH)

Filed: 11/16/2006

Cord Bommelmann et al.

Confirmation No. 9145  
Art Unit 3677

HINGE ASSEMBLY

Examiner Chuck Y. Mah

**RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR RESTRICTION  
AND  
REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION  
AND  
RESERVATION OF RIGHT TO PETITION**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Arlington VA 22313-1450

In response to the Office Action of 2/11/2008, and in order to provide a complete response to the requirement for restriction and/or election, Applicants provisionally elect the species of Figure 1, and Claims 1-4, 6-8, 11-12 and 15-17, with traverse.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the requirement for restriction.

Applicants reserve the right to petition for withdrawal of the requirement for restriction if the requirement is not reconsidered in response to this request for reconsideration.

Request for Reconsideration

The proper ground for a restriction requirement is two-fold:

- (1) the inventions must be independent or distinct as claimed;  
and
- (2) there would be a serious burden on the examiner if the restriction is not required.